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(71)Applicant : OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO LTD

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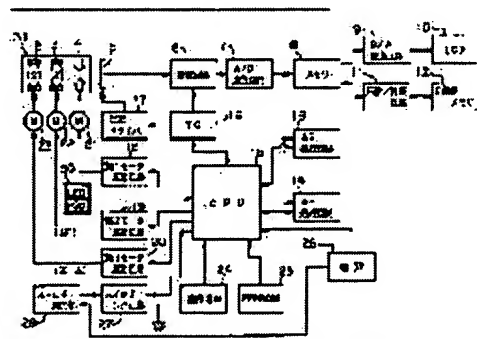
(72)Inventor : HASHIMOTO HITOSHI

(54) AUTOMATIC FOCUSING DEVICE

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide an automatic focusing device by which focusing operation is surely executed at a high speed even at short distance photographing time and a highly accurate focusing result is always obtained.

SOLUTION: This automatic focusing device is provided with an image pickup means including an image pickup element 5 and a photographing optical system, driving means 19 and 22 for driving the image pickup means at a first range previously set or a second range which is narrower than the first range, a high frequency component detecting means 14 for detecting a high frequency component from an image signal at the time of obtaining the image signal by moving the image pickup means by a specified amount at the first range or the second range, a focusing driving means for adjusting the focusing state of a picture base on an output, an infrared ray detecting means 30 that consists of the light emitting means of infrared ray and the light receiving means of the reflected light of a subject and detects the output in accordance with a subject distance based on the output of the light receiving means, an arithmetic means for calculating the subject distance based on the output, and a controlling means 15 for controlling so that the image pickup means is driven at the first range in the case where the subject distance calculated is shorter than a specified distance and the image pickup means is driven at the

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second range in the case that the subject distance calculated is longer than the specified distance.

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